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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/814,519	03/31/2004	Dimce Vasilev		6925

7590 01/31/2007  
John Lagowski  
10521 W. St. Francis Ave.  
Greenfield, WI 53228

EXAMINER
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LEE, CLOUD K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3753

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/31/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.



**DETAILED ACTION**

***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 11/01/06 has been entered.
2. Claims 21-28, 34-35 are withdrawn from consideration.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 29 and 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Plotsky et al (US Patent No. 5,577,274).

Plotsky discloses a swimming pool (24), swimming pool pipe (22) having a first end bordering an aperture in a wall of the swimming pool (figure 1), a one-way valve (figure 2 and 3) having a first end (32) for releasable connection to the first end of the swimming pool pipe (22), a hose adaptor (48) for releasable connection to the second end (14) of the one-way valve, a gate channel (26) and a valve gate moveable to a first position and second position (42).

Regarding the limitation “....for releasable” a recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 30 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Plotsky et al in view of Hunt (US Patent No. 4,275,907).

Plotsky fails to disclose an adaptor inlet having a radially inward extending lip, a one-way valve comprising a housing having a groove for receiving the radially inward extending lip.

Hunt discloses an adaptor inlet having a radially inward extending lip (figure 3 and element 37) and a housing having a groove (28) for receiving the radially inward extending lip (figure 3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have provided the lip and groove of Hunt to the device of Plotsky et al. in order to quickly connect and disconnect the coupling as taught by Hunt (see col. 1, lines 26-33).

***Response to Arguments***

7. In response to applicant's argument that Plotsky et al. does not disclose a hose adapter connected to the outlet of the one-way valve. Plotsky et al disclose a hose adaptor (48) for releasable connection to the second end (14) of the one-way valve

***Conclusion***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cloud K. Lee whose telephone number is (571)272-7206. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric Keasel can be reached on (571)272-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3753

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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ERIC KEASEL  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700